

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Drum debarking method for wood, wherein the bark is loosened from the wood in a debarking drum being alternatively rotatable in the opposite directions and having different debarking properties in said alternative rotation directions, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wood and the loosened bark along with the wood are guided to bark separation dependent on the rotation direction of the drum.

2. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wood and the bark loosened from it are guided to a conveyor having different bark separating properties in the different halves thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with Claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a roller conveyor is used, the rolls of which have different roll structures on the opposite halves of the conveyor.

4. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for debarking wood, said apparatus comprising a debarking drum (4'), means for feeding the wood material to be debarked to the drum, means for rotating the drum alternatively in the opposite directions (G; A) about the longitudinal axis of the drum, means (29, 30, 31) inside the debarking drum (4') for providing a debarking effect being dependent on the direction of rotation of the drum, as well as devices (17) for separating the debarked wood and the loosened bark along with it, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating devices (17) of the loosened bark comprise a conveyor having different bark separating properties in the different sides of the conveying direction thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with Claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the separating elements (17) of the loosened bark are comprised of a roller conveyor with rolls, each roll having on one side (32) of the conveyor a different circumferential construction than on the opposite side (33) of the conveyor.

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the different bark separation properties of the different sides of the conveyor are provided by means of different gaps between the rolls.

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the side of the bark separation elements (17) having a more efficient separation function is located to the discharge side of the direction of rotation (A) of the debarking drum (4') having more efficient debarking properties.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with ~~any of the claims from 4 to 7,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ claim 4, wherein the debarking drum (4') substantially has a closed casing.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus in accordance with ~~any of the claims from 4 to 7,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ claim 4, wherein the casing of the debarking drum (4') is equipped with bark removal slots.

10. (New) An apparatus in accordance with claim 5, wherein the debarking drum (4) substantially has a closed casing.

11. (New) An apparatus in accordance with claim 6, wherein the debarking drum (4) substantially has a closed casing.

12. (New) An apparatus in accordance with claim 7, wherein the debarking drum (4) substantially has a closed casing.

13. (New) An apparatus in accordance with claim 5, wherein the casing of the debarking drum (4') is equipped with bark removal slots.

14. (New) An apparatus in accordance with claim 6, wherein the casing of the debarking drum (4') is equipped with bark removal slots.

15. (New) An apparatus in accordance with claim 7, wherein the casing of the debarking drum (4') is equipped with bark removal slots.